

# Release

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission

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## Remember South Carolina's state forests at tax time

*Help support forest recreation and operations with a charitable check-off on your return*

The South Carolina Forestry Commission encourages citizens to make a charitable contribution to the SC State Forests Fund on their tax returns.

Taxpayers have the opportunity to support the [five state forests](#) – Harbison, Manchester, Poe Creek, Sand Hills and Wee Tee – by making a check-off contribution on their state tax returns using [Form I-330](#).

South Carolina's state forest system receives no state funding and relies solely on timber receipts, pine straw sales and recreational permit revenue for its operating funds. "We're completely self-supporting, so any money we receive from the check-off program goes directly back into these forests and facilities," said Mike Shealy, SCFC state lands manager.

The State Forests Fund check-off program has raised more than **\$150,000** in the 10 years since its inception, with all of the money used to make improvements and repairs that directly benefit visitors and enhance their experience on state forest lands. Your support is helping the state forests carry out their mission to be healthy, productive, forested ecosystems, improving the quality of life of South Carolina's citizens through the environmental, educational, economic, and recreational benefits of active forest management.

Not only do the state forests support themselves, but they also provide funding to school systems in the counties that host them, giving more than **\$917,000** to school districts in 10 counties last year alone.

### How To Give To The SC State Forests Fund:

1. Enter the amount of your donation on Line 28 of your individual income tax form, S.C. Form 1040.
2. Then enter the amount of your donation on Line 15 of S.C. Tax Form I-330, then again on Line 19.
3. Attach [S.C. Tax Form I-330](#) to your tax filing or give it to your professional tax preparer.

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*In addition to being recreational hotspots for hiking, biking, hunting, camping and horseback riding, the Commission's state lands are demonstration forests for ecological responsibility and productivity.*



Visitors to Sand Hills State Forest enjoy the fishing pier built from funds generated by the SC State Forests Fund check-off program.

### Did you know...?

The State Forests pay 25 percent of their gross proceeds from the sale of timber, pine straw, rentals and other fees to the counties that contain them. These funds are designated for general school purposes.